**2019 Medical Mission Report, Delia Oh, PharmD**

**1. Assignment:**What was your primary role in the 2019 medical mission to Ada Ghana?
What things did you find easy in performing your tasks?
What were your challenges?

My primary role was a pharmacy student. I spent majority of my time counseling patients on medications, but I also picked treatments with guidance from pharmacists and dispensed medications. As a student, I was not comfortable double-checking treatment plans. Once the other student and I brought up this concern after the first day, the workflow was adjusted and this was no longer a concern. We decided to have pharmacists check each other’s plans and have both pharmacists initial the forms. There were a few other issues with the workflow initially, but they were quickly addressed. After first two days, the workflow was a lot smoother and it was easier to perform my tasks. Having an assigned leader and the small group meetings we had at the end of the day was very helpful.

**2. Preparation:**Do you think adequate preparation was made for medical mission 2019? By the time of the trip, did you feel you were well prepared? If no, what other plans would you have liked?

I felt well prepared for the trip. I had no issues. The medication list and treatment protocol that were emailed to us were very helpful.

**3. Location:**What was your impression of the mission location for 2019? What did you like and dislike the most? (The hospital, the people, the hotel we stayed…)

I liked the location. I felt safe there, the hotel was nice, people were friendly, and it was an appropriate area for a mission trip. I also appreciated that it was not too far from the airport.

**4. Safety:**

Did you think too much, too little, or adequate preparation was made for your safety.

I felt safe.

**5. Outing:**

On this trip, we allowed ourselves extra day and a half for sightseeing. More expenses In the fare also incurred the longer we stay. For you, did the extra stay add to your fulfillment in the journey or would you prefer completing the mission and leaving the next day?

I liked having an extra day there. It would have been nice if the sightseeing place was closer, but Elmina castle was worth the long car ride.

**6. The Team:**

One of the keys to successful medical missions is seeing oneself as a team member (versus individual). How well do you think we achieved this goal?

It was well achieved. Both concerns and encouragements were well communicated. I believe this is why the workflow improved so quickly. The only thing I wish was done better was communicating pharmacy supplies to nurses and doctors.

**7. Expectations & Experience:**

What expectations did you have joining Team Africa medical mission and were those expectations met.
How did this medical outreach change you as a person and as a healthcare provider? What is your most memorable experience? What were your challenges or disappointments?

Before joining, I expected it to be very challenging. The accommodation was much nicer than what I had expected. It was a challenging experience but I enjoyed the mission trip very much. It was more difficult to counsel patients who speaks different language and has health literacy and knowledge that are lower than that of the average US population. However, it was a very meaningful experience.

**8. Finances:**

As you may be aware, the flat fee of $2000 was significantly offset to lessen the burden on the volunteers. Will you object to increasing the fee to $2250 in the future or should the fee be kept the same?

I would not object to the increase to 2250, because it is still much cheaper than other mission trips I have looked at before finding out about Team Africa. If increasing by $250 helps to better serve, I am all for it!

**7. Performance Evaluation:**

1. How would you evaluate the team leader? (Evon Anukam)

What did she do very well? What does she need to work on? How well did she communicate all relevant information for a successful mission trip?

I think Evon did a great job preparing us for the trip and making us feel safe throughout the trip. I believe communication was one of the biggest strength of Evon and this group. She always listened to concerns and suggestions and was stern when she needed to be.

1. How would you evaluate your clinical group leader?

*(Medical: Dr Evelyn Chiakpo (lead) & Dr Cindy Talbot; Nursing: Angel Sams (lead) & Nwanneka Mbelu; Pharmacy: Ohita Asein (lead) & Allahna Davis)*

What did they do very well, individually and collectively? What do they need to work on?

Ohita was a great leader. I think she was quick to notice problems with the workflow and address it very efficiently. I felt that she tried to make the work environment better.

1. How would you evaluate the safety leaders?

*(Group 1: Gechi; Group 2: Peter; Group 3: Uzoamaka; Group 4: Natalie; Group 5: Ashley N; Group 6: Ashley V)*
What did they do very well? What do they need to work on?

Ashley N was an awesome group leader. She constantly checked to make sure everyone was on the bus.

One thing I would suggest (not to Ashley but forming safety groups): I think it would be better to group based on either clinical group or rooms. This way it will be easier to make sure no one is left behind in the room or at the clinic after the day is over.

1. How would you evaluate yourself? What did you do very well? What do you need to work on? How well did you contribute to the cohesiveness of the team?

I tried to work hard, which was not too difficult to do since everyone there was working very hard. I think I had a positive attitude throughout the mission and followed rules and stayed safe. For next mission trip, I hope I’ll be more comfortable with making clinical decisions and contribute more than I have during this one.

**8. New direction:**

As an organization, Team Africa wants to change directions by looking for ways to engage in more sustainable health projects in developing countries. This will require concerted fundraising efforts and grant applications. Will you commit to assisting Team Africa in raising funds to continue to impact lives?

Yes.

**9. Final Thoughts:**

What else is on your mind?

Thank you for making my first mission trip such a meaningful and unforgettable experience.